THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Linking of North-Eastern states with Bangladesh

2164. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering, the prospects that will be derived if Agartala, Tripura be linked with Akhaura of Bangladesh by railway line in respect of likely transportation between North-Eastern States and Kolkata *via* Bangladesh;

(b) the steps contemplated by Government on that line; and

(c) other similar measures that Government propose for extension of Railways to ease transportation in the North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) A Survey has been taken up for linking Agartala (India) with Akhaura (Bangladesh). Indian side survey has already been completed.

(c) A number of new line and gauge conversion projects have been taken up in North-Eastern region for rail infrastructure development to meet the demand of traffic.

Linking of ports with freight trains

†2165. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has been contemplating a plan under which all ports could be linked to goods train;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the estimates regarding financial resources of the proposed plan are being made and by when this plan is proposed to be commenced?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Inquiry reports by Commission of Railway Safety

2166. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure of discharging inquiry reports submitted by the Commission of Railway Safety;

(b) how many inquiry reports have been submitted by the Commission during the last one year about railway accidents;

(c) what are the reasons of the railways accidents as per those inquiry reports; and

(d) what action has been taken by the Railways, so far, to address those reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Commissioners of Railway Safety submit two reports of each enquiry into railway accidents. Preliminary Report indicates provisional findings and immediate recommendations. Final Report, containing cause of the accident, responsibility therefor and recommendations is submitted to Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety and copies thereof are forwarded to Railway Board and railway administration of zonal Railways and other Commissioners of Railway Safety. Railway administration of the concerned Railway initiates action on the report and submits his comments to the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety. Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety submits remarks on the Final Report to the Ministry of Railways after scrutinizing the comments of concerned railway administration. Ministry of Railways takes a final view on the report and comments of the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety thereon and directs zonal railways administrations to implement accepted recommendations.

(b) and (c) During the last one year from 1.4.04 to 31.3.05, total 19 inquiry reports have been submitted by the Commission. As per these inquiry reports, 10 accidents were caused due to failure of Railway